



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*gha*  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,008	04/26/2001	Masahiko Yamanami	14573	8408
23389	7590	10/19/2004		
SCULLY SCOTT MURPHY & PRESSER, PC 400 GARDEN CITY PLAZA GARDEN CITY, NY 11530			EXAMINER DI GRAZIO, JEANNE A	
			ART UNIT 2871	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/843,008

Applicant(s)

YAMANAMI, MASAHIKO

Examiner

Jeanne A. Di Grazio

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE July 30, 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5 and 7-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5 and 7-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Unit: 2871

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claims***

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are pending. Claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled per RCE Amendment of July 30, 2004. Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10 have been amended per RCE Amendment of July 30, 2004.

### ***Priority***

Priority to Japanese Patent Application 2000-125460 (April 26, 2000) is claimed.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Patent Application 08-314389 (to Sugimura et al.) in view of United States Patent 6,002,582 (to Yeager et al.).

As to claim 7, Sugimura features with reference to Figures 1 and 2, an information processing unit that opens and closes and that has a predetermined panel-mounting case (5) for inserting a display panel therein (6), a predetermined panel-edge cover (4) for covering edge portions of the display panel (6), at least two holding members (for example, 7 and 13) disposed at different positions from each other (holding members 7 and 13 are on opposing sides of the

Art Unit: 2871

panel-mounting case) and fastened to the inner-main face of the panel-mounting case (5) with which the display panel (6) is fixedly held in the panel-mounting case (5), wherein edge portions of the display panel (6) are covered in the panel-mounting case (5) with the predetermined panel-edge cover (4) and the display panel (6) is mounted in the predetermined common display panel housing (Figure 1).

Sugimura does not appear to explicitly specify a first spacer inserted between a back face of the display panel and an inner main face of the panel mounting case such that the display panel is placed in the predetermined panel mounting case through the first spacer and a second spacer for positioning and fixing the display panel along its up-and-down direction panel where the second spacer is provided between a lower inner side face of the panel mounting case and a lower outer side face of the display panel.

Yeager teaches and discloses an adapter to accommodate various LCD sizes in a computer (title, entire patent). Yeager illustrates in Figure 6 a plurality of spring fingers (= spacers) (46) on a back face of a display panel configured to receive an adapter (48) and LCD panel (40'). The Yeager invention serves to accommodate various LCD panels having various mounting point locations and different size active areas with a single cover base configuration and single bezel configuration and thus eliminates the need for additional parts that would be needed to accommodate a multitude of panels (Column 1, Lines 20-40). Thus, cost is lowered (Id.).

Yeager is evidence that ordinary workers in the field of liquid crystals would have found the reason, suggestion and motivation to incorporate spring fingers into the back cover of a

Art Unit: 2871

display panel to receive an adapter and panel so that many different sized displays could be accommodated into a single sized unit thus lowering cost.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of liquid crystals at the time the invention was made to modify Sugimura in view of Yeager to accommodate different sized displays in a single unit and to thus lower cost.

As to claim 8, the Yeager invention accommodates different display screen sizes.

As to claim 9, in Yeager, the spring fingers, tabs, and standoffs act in combination with each other to accommodate the various size displays (Figures 3, 6 and 7 for example).

As to claim 10, the spring fingers, tabs and standoffs are fixed to the display (Figures 3 and 6 for example).

As to claims 2-5, the method of mounting the display panel would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of liquid crystals at the time the invention was made in view of the structures as taught and disclosed by Sugimura in view of Yeager.

Art Unit: 2871

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeanne A. Di Grazio whose telephone number is (571)272-2289.

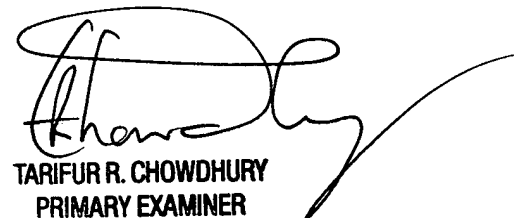
The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim, can be reached on (571)272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jeanne Andrea Di Grazio  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2871

JDG



TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY  
PRIMARY EXAMINER